

COMMUNITY AFFAIRS

DIVISION OF CODES AND STANDARDS

Uniform Construction Code

Escalators as Building Stairs

Proposed Amendment: N.J.A.C. 5:23-12.12

Authorized By: Susan Bass Levin, Commissioner, Department of Community Affairs.

Authority: N.J.S.A. 52:27D-124

Proposal Number: PRN 2002-

Calendar: See Summary below for explanation of exception to calendar requirement.

Submit written comments by [January 4, 2002](#) to:

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SUSAN BASS LEVIN,
COMMISSIONER

The agency proposal follows:

Summary

The proposed amendment at N.J.A.C. 5:23-12.12, Special safety equipment, prohibits the use of an escalator as a stair and requires that a sign be posted at the top and bottom landings of each escalator informing the public of that prohibition. The proposed amendment will increase the level of public safety for individuals using escalators by preventing accidents that might occur as the result of improper use. Escalators are not designed to support the loads imposed by their use as a stair.

As the Department has provided a 60-day public comment period on this notice of proposal, this notice is excepted from the rulemaking calendar requirement pursuant to N.J.A.C. 1:30-3.3(a)5.

Social Impact

This proposed amendment is expected to have a positive social impact by increasing the level of public safety for escalators by prohibiting their use as stairs.

Economic Impact

The cost of signs varies; however, the rule would provide for a sign that is visible. It would not require a costly sign. Therefore, the Department does not anticipate a significant cost impact.

Federal Standards Statement

No Federal standards analysis is required because these amendments are not being proposed in order to implement, comply with, or participate in any program established under Federal law or under a State law that incorporates or refers to Federal law, standards, or requirements.

Jobs Impact

The Department does not anticipate that any jobs would either be created or lost as a consequence of this proposal.

Agricultural Industry Impact

The Department does not anticipate that this proposal would have an impact on the agricultural industry.

Regulatory Flexibility Analysis

The proposed amendment would not impose any record keeping or reporting requirements on “small businesses” as defined in the Regulatory Flexibility Act, in N.J.S.A. 52:14B-16 et seq. The amendment would impose compliance requirements that are not likely to be burdensome to “small businesses” and that are necessary to better protect public safety.

Smart Growth Impact

Due to the subject matter of this proposal, the Department does not expect that it would have any impact upon either achievement of "smart growth" or implementation of the State Plan.

Full text of the proposal follows (additions are indicated in boldface **thus**; deletions indicated in brackets [thus]):

5:23-12.12 Special Safety Equipment

(a)-(d) (No change.)

(e) A sign stating "DO NOT USE A STANDING ESCALATOR AS A BUILDING STAIR" shall be permanently placed where it is readily visible to the general public at the top and bottom landings of an escalator. Each sign shall comply with the applicable requirements of ASME A17.1-93-95, Rule 805.2.b. This requirement shall apply to new escalator installations and to existing escalators. All existing escalators shall be required to comply with this section within 18 months of the effective date of this rule.